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NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

Report of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations

SUMMARY

This report contains three draft decisions on matters calling for action by the Economic and Social Council.

By draft decision I, the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations recommends to the Council:

(a) That consultative status be granted to 36 non-governmental organizations which had applied;

(b) That nine non-governmental organizations be reclassified.

By draft decision II, the Committee requests the Council to approve the provisional agenda and documentation for the session of the Committee to be held in 1993.

By draft decision III, the Committee recommends that the Council withdraw the consultative status of three organizations that failed to submit a detailed report on their activities for the period 1986-1989.

The attention of the Council is drawn to the recommendations and decisions of the Committee in connection with the review of future activities, in particular, paragraphs 44-49 of the report.

* E/1991/30.

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I. MATTERS CALLING FOR ACTION BY THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL OR BROUGHT TO ITS ATTENTION

A. Draft decisions and recommendations calling for action by the Council

1. The Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations recommends to the Economic and Social Council the adoption of the following draft decisions:

DRAFT DECISION I

Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification received from non-governmental organizations

The Economic and Social Council decides:

(a) To grant the following non-governmental organizations consultative status:

Category I

IPS Inter Press Service International Cooperative

Category II

ActionAid

Arab Council for Childhood and Development

Asia Crime Prevention Foundation

Charity Organization

Childhope

Commission for the Defence of Human Rights in Central America

Development Innovations and Networks

France-Libertés - Fondation Danielle Mitterrand

International Alert

International Federation for Hydrocephalus and Spina Bifida (IFHSB)

International Federation of Industrial Energy Consumers

International Kolping Society

International Service for Human Rights

Lawyers Committee for Human Rights

National Wildlife Federation

Organization of Islamic Capitals and Cities

Planetary Society, The

Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs

Refugee Policy Group

Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund (SCLDF)

Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI)

South American Commission for Peace, Regional Security and Democracy

Special Olympics International

World Coal Institute, The

World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-City Solidarity

Roster

African-American Society for Humanitarian Aid and Development

Arab Society of Certified Accountants

Article 19, International Centre on Censorship, The

Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Foundation, The

Human Life International

International Real Estate Institute

Japan Solidarity Committee for Asian Alumni - International
(JASCAA-International)

Panamanian White Cross Association

Wainwright House

World Association of Women Entrepreneurs

(b) To reclassify four organizations from category II to category I and five organizations from the Roster to category II, as follows:

Category I

CARE International

International Council for Adult Education (ICAE)

International Federation of Associations of the Elderly (FIAPA)

International Movement ATD Fourth World

Category II

Asian Non-Governmental Organizations Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC)

Daytop Village Foundation, Inc.

Defense for Children International Movement

World Association of Industrial and Technological Research Organizations

World Federation of Therapeutic Communities (WFTC).

DRAFT DECISION II

Provisional agenda and documentation for the session of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations to be held in 1993

The Economic and Social Council approves the provisional agenda and documentation for the session of the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations to be held in 1993 set out below:

PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND DOCUMENTATION FOR THE SESSION OF THE COMMITTTEE ON NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS TO BE HELD IN 1993

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

3. Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification received from non-governmental organizations:

   (a) Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification deferred from the 1991 session of the Committee;

   (b) New applications for consultative status and new requests for reclassification.

   Documentation

   Deferred applications for consultative status: memorandum by the Secretary-General

   Deferred requests for reclassification: memorandum by the Secretary-General

   New applications for consultative status: memorandum by the Secretary-General

   New requests for reclassification: memorandum by the Secretary-General

4. Review of quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, categories I and II.

   Documentation

   Quadrennial reports for the period 1988-1991 submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, categories I and II: report submitted through the Secretary-General pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1296 (XLIV) of 23 May 1968

   Follow-up to decisions taken by the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations at its session in 1991: report submitted through the Secretary-General pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1296 (XLIV) of 23 May 1968

5. Review of future activities.

Documentation

Report on the annual informal consultation held in 1991 and 1992 between the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations and non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council

Report of the Working Group

6. Provisional agenda and documentation for the session of the Committee to be held in 1995.

7. Adoption of the report of the Committee.

DRAFT DECISION III

Review of quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, categories I and II

Follow-up to decisions taken by the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations at its session in 1989

The Economic and Social Council decides that the consultative status of the following organizations, which failed to submit a detailed report on their activities, as requested by the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations at its 1989 session (E/1989/40, paras. 16 and 17), be withdrawn:

International Christian Union of Business Executives (UNIAPAC)

International Hotel Association

Studies and Expansion Society - International Scientific Association (SEC).

B. Matters brought to the attention of the Council

2. The attention of the Council is drawn to the recommendations and decisions of the Committee in regard to the review of future activities, in particular, paragraphs 44-49 below.

II. APPLICATIONS FOR CONSULTATIVE STATUS AND REQUESTS FOR RECLASSIFICATION RECEIVED FROM NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS

3. The Committee considered item 3 of its agenda at its 516th to 522nd and 524th to 532nd meetings, from 21 to 25 January and 28 to 31 January and on 1 February 1991. It had before it the following documents:

(a) Memorandum by the Secretary-General containing applications for consultative status received from non-governmental organizations, the further consideration of which had been deferred by the Committee at its 1989 session (E/C.2/1991/R.1 and Corr.1);

(b) Memorandum by the Secretary-General containing requests for reclassification received from non-governmental organizations, the further consideration of which had been deferred by the Committee at its 1989 session (E/C.2/1991/R.2);

(c) Memorandum by the Secretary-General containing new applications for consultative status received from non-governmental organizations (E/C.2/1991/R.3 and Add.1-6);

(d) Memorandum by the Secretary-General containing new requests for reclassification received from non-governmental organizations (E/C.2/1991/R.4 and Add.1);

(e) Note by the Secretariat containing the re-examination of the consultative status of CARE International and Save the Children Alliance (E/C.2/1991/CRP.1);

(f) Note by the Secretariat containing the follow-up to the decisions taken by the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations at its 1989 session (E/C.2/1991/CRP.2);

(g) Note by the Secretariat containing the application for consultative status of the International Centre of Legal Science (Law World Organization) referred back to the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations by the Economic and Social Council at its first regular session of 1989 for further consideration (E/C.2/1991/CRP.3).

A. Applications for consultative status deferred from the 1989 session of the Committee

4. The Committee decided to recommend that the Economic and Social Council grant the following non-governmental organizations consultative status:

Category II

Commission for the Defence of Human Rights in Central America 1/

Lawyers Committee for Human Rights 1/

Roster

Article 19, International Centre on Censorship 1/

International Real Estate Institute 2/

Panamanian White Cross Association 1/

5. The Committee decided to defer further consideration of the application of the International Movement against All Forms of Discrimination and Racism 3/, 4/, 5/ to its session in 1993.

B. Request for reclassification deferred from the 1989 session of the Committee

6. The Committee decided that the International Federation of Educative Communities should maintain its current status 6/ (see E/1989/40, para. 9).

C. New applications for consultative status

7. The Committee decided to recommend that the Economic and Social Council grant the following non-governmental organizations consultative status:

1/ The organization had applied for category II consultative status.

2/ The organization had applied for category I consultative status.

3/ The organization had applied for placement on the Roster.

4/ The Committee decided that, for all applications deferred, the organizations concerned should submit a new application.

5/ The decision of the Committee was taken solely on the basis of the merits of the application.

6/ The organization had requested reclassification from the Roster to category II.

Category I

IPS Inter Press Service International Cooperative 1/

Category II

ActionAid 1/

Arab Council for Childhood and Development 1/

Asia Crime Prevention Foundation 1/

Charity Organization 1/

Childhope 1/

Development Innovations and Networks 1/

France-Libertés - Fondation Danielle Mitterrand 1/

International Alert 1/

International Federation for Hydrocephalus and Spina Bifida (IFHSB) 1/

International Federation of Industrial Energy Consumers 1/

International Kolping Society 2/

International Service for Human Rights 1/

National Wildlife Federation 1/

Organization of Islamic Capitals and Cities (OICC) 2/

Planetary Society 1/

Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs 1/

Refugee Policy Group 1/

Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund (SCLDF) 1/

Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues (SPSSI) 1/

South American Commission for Peace, Regional Security and Democracy 1/

Special Olympics International 1/

World Coal Institute, The 1/

World Conference of Mayors for Peace through Inter-City Solidarity 1/

Roster

African-American Society for Humanitarian Aid and Development 1/

Arab Society of Certified Accountants 3/

Duke of Edinburgh's Award International Foundation, The 3/

Human Life International 1/

(Japan Solidarity Committee for Asian Alumni - International (JASCAA-International) 3/

Wainwright House 1/

World Association of Women Entrepreneurs 2/

8. The Committee decided to defer consideration of the application of Human Rights Watch 3/ to its session in 1993 and that it would receive special attention and should be considered as a matter of priority. 4/

9. The Committee decided to defer further consideration of the application of the International Lesbian and Gay Association 1/ to its session in 1993. 4/

10. The International Women's Rights Action Watch and the World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations withdrew their applications for consultative status.

D. New requests for reclassification

11. The Committee decided to recommend that the Economic and Social Council reclassify four organizations from category II to category I and five organizations from the Roster to category II.

Category I

CARE International 7/

International Council for Adult Education (ICAE) 7/

7/ The organization had requested reclassification from category II to category I.

International Federation of Associations of the Elderly (FIAPA) 7/

International Movement ATD Fourth World 7/

Category II

Asian Non-Governmental Organizations Coalition for Agrarian Reform and Rural Development (ANGOC) 6/

Daytop Village Foundation, Inc. 6/

Defense for Children International Movement 6/

World Association of Industrial and Technological Research Organizations 8/

World Federation of Therapeutic Communities (WFTC) 8/

12. The Committee decided to defer consideration of the request for reclassification of Soka Gakkai International to its session in 1993. 6/

13. The International Humanist and Ethical Union withdrew the request for reclassification.

E. Follow-up to the decisions taken by the Committee at its 1989 session

14. The Committee decided that the Fédération international de l'ACAT (Action des chrétiens pour l'abolition de la torture), the National Association of Women Lawyers (NAWL) and the Pearl S. Buck Foundation, Inc. should remain on the Roster and that the World LPG Forum should remain in category II (see E/1989/40, para. 10).

F. Re-examination of the consultative status of CARE International

15. As decided at its 1989 session (E/1989/40, para. 13), the Committee reconsidered the consultative status of CARE International and its affiliate. The Committee was informed by the Secretariat that CARE International had communicated the following:

8/ The organization had requested reclassification from the Roster to category I.

"CARE International has considered the matter with CARE USA [CARE (Cooperative for American Relief Everywhere, Inc.)], one of its affiliates, and it has been agreed that CARE International shall be CARE's representative to the United Nations. We understand that this may mean that CARE USA will no longer have category II consultative status, although we request that, if possible, that action be postponed while CARE International seeks category I status" (see E/C.2/1991/CRP.1, para. 2).

16. The Committee decided that after 31 December 1991 the two organizations would be represented in the United Nations solely by CARE International.

G. Re-examination of the consultative status of Save the Children Alliance

17. As decided at its 1989 session (E/1989/40, para. 13), the Committee reconsidered the consultative status of Save the Children Alliance and its affiliates (Radda Barnen (Sweden), Save the Children Federation and Save the Children Fund (United Kingdom)). 9/

18. The Committee decided that, on an exceptional basis and without establishing a precedent, and bearing in mind the needs of the organizations concerned, the four organizations should be allowed to maintain their consultative status for a further three years, until 31 December 1993. After that date the four organizations should be represented solely by Save the Children Alliance.

H. Re-examination of the application of the International Centre of Legal Science (Law World Organization)

19. At its first regular session of 1989, the Economic and Social Council decided to refer the application of the International Centre of Legal Science (Law World Organization) back to the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations for further consideration at its session to be held in 1991 (Council decision 1989/106, para. (c)).

20. After reconsidering the application, the Committee decided not to grant consultative status to the International Centre of Legal Science (Law World Organization).

9/ These four organizations are in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, category II.

III. REVIEW OF QUADRIENNIAL REPORTS SUBMITTED BY NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS IN CONSULTATIVE STATUS WITH THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL, CATEGORIES I AND II

21. The Committee considered item 4 of its agenda at its 525th-531st meetings, from 28 to 31 January 1991. It had before it quadriennial reports for the period 1986-1989 on the activities of 206 non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, categories I and II (E/C.2/1991/2 and Add.1-6 and E/C.2/1991/3 and Add.1).

A. Quadriennial reports, 1986-1989

22. In accordance with Council resolution 1296 (XLIV), the Committee requested the following organizations, which had failed to submit reports for the period 1986-1989, to provide them within three months:

Democratic Youth Community of Europe

Environment Liaison Center International

European Association of National Productivity Centres

Howard League for Penal Reform

Institute of Social Studies Trust

Inter African Union of Lawyers

International Association of Juvenile and Family Court Magistrates

International Cargo Handling Coordination Association

International Centre of Social Gerontology

International Cooperation for Development and Solidarity

International Federation of Beekeepers' Associations

International Federation of Senior Police Officers

International Islamic Federation of Student Organizations

International Union for Inland Navigation

International Union of Architects

Pan African Institute for Development

Third World Foundation.

The Committee decided to review the reports of the above-mentioned organizations for the period of 1986-1989 at its session in 1993 10/ and

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10/ These organizations will also be requested to submit to the Committee at its session in 1995 a report for the period 1990-1993.

agreed that, in accordance with past practice, those organizations that failed to submit a report within the specified time would automatically have their consultative status with the Council withdrawn.

23. The Committee noted that the reports of the Consultative Council of Jewish Organizations and the International Youth and Student Movement for the United Nations had been submitted too late for consideration by the Committee at its current session and, in accordance with past practice, would be considered at its session in 1993.

24. The Committee noted that the information provided by the following organizations was not satisfactory:

European League for Economic Cooperation

European Organization for Quality Control (EOQC)

Inter-American Planning Society (SIAP)

International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI)

Inter-University European Institute on Social Welfare

Latin American Iron and Steel Institute

Union of International Associations

United Towns Organization.

The Committee decided to request the above-mentioned organizations to submit, within three months, additional information on their activities related to the work of the United Nations.

25. The Committee noted that the additional information provided by the General Arab Women Federation on its activities for the period 1986-1989 (see E/C.2/1991/2) was inadequate and decided to draw the attention of that organization to the necessity of submitting to the Committee in 1995 clearer information in its quadrennial report for the period 1990-1993.

26. The representative of Cuba drew the Committee's attention to the activities of the AFL-CIO, an affiliate of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU). He said that the AFL-CIO had been involved in politically motivated activities against his Government and that it had launched an international campaign to discredit it. He also said that the organization was promoting terrorist and subversive activities inside Cuba and that it had referred to the Cuban Head of State in an offensive and insulting manner. The AFL-CIO had publicly declared its intention of involving the ICFTU in such activities at the international level.

27. The representative of Costa Rica said that she had taken note of the report of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, which provided comprehensive information on its activities. She noted with satisfaction the cooperation between ICFTU and such United Nations bodies as the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the United Nations

Children's Fund. She also noted that representatives of IFCTU had attended the meetings of a number of intergovernmental bodies.

28. The representative of Cuba stated that the observers for the International League for Human Rights had engaged in politically motivated and provocative conduct while attending the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders at Havana. He stated that such conduct raised doubts as to the credibility of the organization. His delegation reserved the right to discuss the organization's consultative status when appropriate.

29. The representative of Cuba added that as the host of the Eighth United Nations Crime Congress his Government had fully complied with all aspects of its agreement with the United Nations, and that the legitimate observers for the International League for Human Rights had participated in the Congress without restriction, as had the observers for all the other non-governmental organizations that had attended the Congress.

30. The representative of Chile stated that he had taken note with appreciation of the report of the International League for Human Rights.

31. The representative of Greece stated that she had taken note with satisfaction of the report of the International League for Human Rights and expressed appreciation for its work. She also noted that the Committee was considering the quadrennial reports for 1986-1989 while the Eighth United Nations Crime Congress had been held in 1990.

32. The representative of Costa Rica stated that she had taken note with appreciation of the report of the International League for Human Rights, which was thorough and professional. For some time, her delegation had been aware of the important work being done by the League to promote and protect the human rights set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenants on Human Rights.

33. The representative of Ireland recalled that during the forty-fifth session of the General Assembly several delegations had expressed concern regarding certain restrictions imposed on the observers for non-governmental organisations at the Eighth United Nations Crime Congress. He considered that those actions raised questions concerning the implementation of the agreement between the United Nations and the host Government regarding the arrangements for the Congress and noted that the matter had been brought to the attention of the Secretary-General.

34. The representative of Ethiopia drew the attention of the Committee to the activities of the International Organization for the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (EAFORD). He said that EAFORD had engaged in political activities and disseminated propaganda directed against the unity and territorial integrity of Ethiopia. He also said that the organization, far from being a non-governmental organization, was a foreign governmental body that pursued subversive and clandestine activities. He further stated that he reserved the right to discuss and to request the withdrawal of the organization's consultative status.

B. Follow-up to the decisions taken by the Committee at its 1989 session

35. The Committee noted that the International Hotel Association had failed to submit its report for the period 1984-1987 within the specified time. Pursuant to its decision in 1989 (E/1989/40, para. 16), the Committee decided to recommend that the Economic and Social Council withdraw the consultative status of the organization.

36. The Committee decided to recommend that the Economic and Social Council withdraw the consultative status of the following organizations, which had failed to submit a detailed report on their activities for the period 1986-1989 as requested by the Committee in 1989 (E/1989/40, para. 17):

International Christian Union of Business Executives (UNIAPAC)

Studies and Expansion Society - International Scientific Association (SEC).

IV. REVIEW OF FUTURE ACTIVITIES

37. The Committee considered item 5 of its agenda at its 527th and 530th to 532nd meetings, on 29 and 31 January and 1 February 1991. It had before it a note by the Secretariat containing a report of the annual informal consultations between the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations and the non-governmental organizations (E/C.2/1991/CRP.4).

38. The Under-Secretary-General for International Economic and Social Affairs made an introductory statement. He emphasized the unique functions performed by the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations in considering the applications for consultative status with the Council and in reviewing the activities of non-governmental organizations, as well as in advising the Council and other organs and bodies of the United Nations on establishing links with non-governmental organizations. The current forms of cooperation between United Nations bodies and non-governmental organizations had gone beyond those envisaged by the Council in resolution 1296 (XLIV). Efforts had been made to increase coordination, cooperation and exchange of information between the various offices of the Secretariat dealing with matters related to non-governmental organizations. Initiatives had been taken by the Non-Governmental Organizations Unit to strengthen assistance to non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council in the coordination of their activities. Efforts would continue to be made by the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs through its Non-Governmental Organizations Unit to explore new avenues of communication between Member States, non-governmental organizations in consultative status and the Secretariat. He said that non-governmental organizations, in view of their knowledge and expertise, could greatly help in the formulation of plans and programmes of the United Nations, as well as in their implementation. Increased collaboration with non-governmental

organizations in carrying out joint activities with the Secretariat, such as seminars and conferences, technical assistance and operational activities, would enhance the effectiveness, relevance and impact of those activities and, in some cases, result in savings for the Organization. In the coming years, non-governmental organizations would have several opportunities to make a vital contribution to the activities of the United Nations through their active participation in the implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade, the programme on the prevention and control of AIDS, the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, the International Meeting on Population to be held in 1994 and in the area of disarmament and development. Their organizational skills, information capabilities and resources lent vital support and assistance to the United Nations and thus served as a source of strength and inspiration.

39. The Vice-President of the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council (CONGO) drew the attention of the Committee to the importance of respecting precedents regarding modalities for the participation of organizations in consultative status in United Nations conferences and of bringing information on those precedents to the attention of appropriate Secretariat officials. She noted that the Non-Governmental Organizations Unit should be consulted in connection with proposals regarding the participation of non-governmental organizations in United Nations conferences and in special sessions of the General Assembly. She stressed the need for uniformity in the access granted to non-governmental organizations in consultative status at special sessions and ad hoc committees of the General Assembly, as well as its Main Committees. The response of non-governmental organizations to United Nations resolutions could be facilitated if there were consistency in the criteria used and in the treatment accorded non-governmental organizations in consultative status by the various offices of the Secretariat. She strongly deplored a growing tendency to label non-governmental organizations as "northern", "southern" or "indigenous". The international non-governmental organizations in consultative status, irrespective of the location of their headquarters, had chapters or members in both developed and developing countries and the views of their wide constituency were reflected in their policy-making process. Finally, she noted with appreciation the efforts made by the Non-Governmental Organizations Unit and the Interdepartmental Working Group on NGO-related Matters to strengthen and improve the relationship between the United Nations and non-governmental organizations. In that connection, she deplored the reduction of 33 per cent of the sources allocated to the Non-Governmental Organizations Unit and urged that the resources be restored to a level commensurate with the increasing demands made upon it.

40. In reviewing the report on the annual informal consultation (see E/C.2/1991/CRP.4), the members of the Committee stressed the increasing importance of the role and contributions of the non-governmental organizations in consultative status to the activities of the United Nations and called for strengthened and concrete collaboration in all appropriate areas. They noted that those organizations should utilize to the fullest extent the

possibilities offered by their consultative status for participation in the Economic and Social Council and its subsidiary bodies.

41. Regarding the participation by non-governmental organizations in consultative status in the work of the General Assembly through oral statements in its Main Committees or at special sessions, members of the Committee drew attention to the practical limitations and time constraints. It was suggested that by regrouping their views, non-governmental organizations would, when appropriate, ensure a modicum of participation in the work of the General Assembly. The Committee agreed that participation through written statements was very valuable and should be facilitated.

42. There was general agreement on the importance and usefulness of the annual informal consultation: it provided an opportunity for open and constructive dialogue and contacts as well as a forum for Governments and non-governmental organizations in consultative status to express their respective concerns.

43. The Committee commended the Non-Governmental Organizations Unit of the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs for its work, in particular for the excellent quality of the documentation prepared for the Committee.

44. The Committee strongly recommended an urgent review of the grave situation in respect of staff resources of the Non-Governmental Organizations Unit, in view of the ever-expanding volume of documentation as well as the constant increase in the number of non-governmental organizations in consultative status and the resulting increase in demands placed upon the Unit. In that regard, it was noted that, owing to the dire financial situation of the Organization, an increase in the staff resources of the Unit could be achieved only through redeployment within the Department of International Economic and Social Affairs.

45. The Committee stressed that Economic and Social Council resolution 1296 (XLIV) should remain the basis of, and guiding element for, the work of the Committee. The Committee noted, however, that there was a need to establish practical guidelines of an administrative and technical nature with a view to facilitating the work of the Committee, as well as of the Non-Governmental Organizations Unit.

46. Regarding the applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification submitted by non-governmental organizations, the Committee noted with appreciation the efforts made by the Non-Governmental Organizations Unit to implement the provisions of paragraph 40 (a) of Council resolution 1296 (XLIV) and instructed the Unit to transmit to the Committee only those applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification for which the completed questionnaire had been submitted no later than 1 June of the year preceding the session of the Committee.

47. The Committee emphasized the need for non-governmental organizations requested to submit quadrennial reports to provide a clear picture of their activities as they related to the United Nations. The Committee further noted that the reports should conform to the guidelines elaborated by the Non-Governmental Organizations Unit pursuant to the relevant decisions of the Committee.

48. The Committee further decided that only those reports elaborated in conformity with the guidelines and submitted to the Non-Governmental Organizations Unit no later than 1 June of the year preceding the Committee's session would be transmitted to the Committee for consideration. The Committee recalled that organizations failing to submit adequate reports on time would be subject to any reclassification in status that the Committee might deem appropriate, in conformity with paragraph 40 (b) of Council resolution 1296 (XLIV).

49. The Committee, convinced that Economic and Social Council resolution 1296 (XLIV) of 23 May 1968 should continue to be the mandate for its work, decided to establish, within existing resources, a Working Group open to all members of the Committee, as well as other interested States, to prepare, for consideration at the Committee's next session, in 1993, draft guidelines, of a technical nature, aimed at assisting the Committee to fulfil its responsibilities in the most effective manner. It was agreed that the Non-Governmental Organizations Unit, taking into account its resource constraints, should be invited to participate in the Working Group and that the non-governmental organizations should have an opportunity to express their views through the Conference of Non-Governmental Organizations in Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council (CONGO). In accordance with the past practice of the Committee, the Working Group would conduct its work on the basis of consensus. The Chairman was requested, in consultation with the members of the Bureau, to convene a meeting of the Working Group and to ensure that the Group concluded its work and circulated any proposals to the members of the Committee no later than 1 June 1992.

V. PROVISIONAL AGENDA FOR THE 1993 SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE

50. The Committee considered item 6 of its agenda at its 532nd meeting, on 1 February 1991. It had before it the draft provisional agenda for its 1993 session (E/C.2/1991/L.1/Add.4).

51. At the same meeting the Committee approved the provisional agenda for the 1993 session as orally amended and decided to subit it to the Economic and Social Council for approval (see sect. I.A, draft decision II).

VI. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE

52. At its 532nd meeting, on 1 February 1991, the Committee adopted the draft report on its current session (E/C.2/1991/L.1 and Add.1-6), as amended during the discussion.

VII. ORGANIZATION OF THE WORK OF THE SESSION

A. Opening and duration of the session

53. The Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations met at United Nations Headquarters, from 21 January to 1 February 1991. The Committee held 17 meetings (516th to 532nd meetings). The session was opened by Ms. Annie Marie Sundbom (Sweden), Chairman of the Committee in 1989.

B. Attendance

54. Representatives of all the States members of the Committee attended the session: Bulgaria, Burundi, Chile, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Ethiopia, France, Greece, Iraq, Ireland, Lesotho, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Nicaragua, Oman, the Philippines, the Sudan, Sweden, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

55. The following States Members of the United Nations were represented by observers: Afghanistan, Algeria, Barbados, Bolivia, Egypt, Germany, Guatemala, Guyana, Hungary, India, Indonesia, the Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Peru, Qatar, Romania, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, Yugoslavia.

56. The following specialized agencies were represented: International Labour Organisation, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, World Health Organization.

57. The following non-governmental organizations attended the session:

Category I. Greek Orthodox Archdiocesan Council of North and South America, International Chamber of Commerce, International Confederation of Free Trade Unions, International Federation of Business and Professional Women, International Organization for Standardization (ISO), International Union of Family Organisations, Soroptimist International, World Federation of United Nations Associations (WFUNA).

Category II. International Association of Women in Radio and Television, International Federation of Associations of the Elderly (FIAPA), International Federation of Settlements and Neighborhood Centers (IFS), International Movement ATD Fourth World, Pan-Pacific and South-East Asia Women's Association, World Union of Catholic Women's Organizations.

C. Election of officers

58. At its 516th meeting, on 21 January 1991, the Committee elected the following officers by acclamation:

Chairman: Annie Marie Sundbom (Sweden)

Vice-Chairman: Ernestina E. Kodikara (Philippines)

Rapporteur: Peter Kolarov (Bulgaria)

D. Agenda

59. At its 516th meeting, on 21 January 1991, the Committee adopted the provisional agenda contained in document E/C.2/1991/1. The agenda was as follows:

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.

3. Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification received from non-governmental organizations:

   (a) Applications for consultative status and requests for reclassification deferred from the 1989 session of the Committee;

   (b) New applications for consultative status and new requests for reclassification.

4. Review of quadrennial reports submitted by non-governmental organizations in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council, categories I and II.

5. Review of future activities.

6. Provisional agenda and documentation for the session of the Committee to be held in 1993.

7. Adoption of the report of the Committee.

E. Documentation

60. The list of documents before the Committee is given in the annex to the present report.

61. The Committee deplored the late issuance of documentation and stressed that the documentation should be circulated in all the working languages six weeks before the opening of each session, in accordance with Council resolution 1979/69.

Annex

LIST OF DOCUMENTS BEFORE THE COMMITTEE AT ITS 1991 SESSION

Document number	Agenda item	Title or description
E/C.2/1991/1	2	Provisional agenda
E/C.2/1991/2 and Add.1-6	4	Quadrennial reports, 1986-1989: report submitted through the Secretary-General pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1296 (XLIV) of 23 May 1968
E/C.2/1991/3 and Add.1	4	Quadrennial reports, 1986-1989: report submitted through the Secretary-General pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1296 (XLIV) of 23 May 1968, follow-up to decisions taken by the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations at its session in 1989
E/C.2/1991/CRP.1	3	Re-examination of the consultative status of CARE International and Save the Children Alliance
E/C.2/1991/CRP.2	3	Follow-up to decisions taken by the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations at its 1989 session
E/C.2/1991/CRP.3	3	Applications for consultative status: note by the Secretariat
E/C.2/1991/CRP.4	5	Review of Future Activities: annual informal consultation between the Committee on Non-Governmental Organizations and the non-governmental organizations in consultative status: note by the Secretariat
E/C.2/1991/INF/1	-	List of delegations
E/C.2/1991/L.1 and Add.1-6	7	Draft report
E/C.2/1991/R.1 and Corr.1	3	Deferred applications for consultative status: memorandum by the Secretary-General

Document number	Agenda item	Title or description
E/C.2/1991/R.2	3	Deferred requests for reclassification: memorandum by the Secretary-General
E/C.2/1991/R.3 and Add.1-6	3	New applications for consultative status: memorandum by the Secretary-General
E/C.2/1991/R.4 and Add.1	3	New request for reclassification: memorandum by the Secretary-General

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